



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**  
1301 CONSTITUTION AVENUE, NW  
WASHINGTON DC 20004

**DATE:** MARCH 26, 2020

**PREPARED BY:** SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**CASE #:** OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0084

**CROSS REFERENCE #:** N/A

**TITLE:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C),  
CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD BOARD

**CASE CLOSING REPORT**

Subject(s)	Location	Other Data
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	WASHINGTON, D.C.	N/A

**[Agent Note: This report is an amended case closing report to reflect the investigative finding of not supported.]**

**ALLEGATIONS:**

An anonymous complainant requested an investigation into allegations that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) regularly accepts gifts from (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).

**INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS:**

Not Supported. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) provides (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) once a year around Christmas. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) might have been in excess of ten dollars, but later clarified that each (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was under ten dollars and characterized it as de minimus.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated "as far as I know, I haven't asked for a receipt" when asked by the Reporting Agent if (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) were under ten dollars. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) characterized the gifts as de minimus.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) provided (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), as well as other co-workers (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) has had the items displayed in (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) office. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ethics officer was in there and that "nobody has raised a question that it was a problem."

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) acknowledged that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) received the annual ethics training and was informed that employees are allowed to do "small things for colleagues" around Christmas.

**RESTRICTED INFORMATION**

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## RECOMMENDATION:

This matter is recommended for closure due to the unknown amount of (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED]. Additionally, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED] provided (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED] to other co-workers as well as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED] stated that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED] was informed during the annual ethics training that employees are allowed to do “small things for colleagues” around Christmas.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
1301 CONSTITUTION AVENUE, NW  
WASHINGTON DC 20004

DATE: AUGUST 16, 2019

PREPARED BY: SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CASE #: OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0084

CROSS REFERENCE #: N/A

TITLE: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CHEICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

CASE CLOSING REPORT

Subject(s)	Location	Other Data
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	WASHINGTON, D.C.	N/A

ALLEGATIONS:

An anonymous complainant requested an investigation into allegations that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) regularly accepts gifts from (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS:

Inconclusive. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) provides (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) once a year around Christmas. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) might have been in excess of ten dollars, but later clarified that each (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was under ten dollars and characterized it as de minimus.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated "as far as I know, I haven't asked for a receipt" when asked by the Reporting Agent if the (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) were under ten dollars. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) characterized the gifts as de minimus.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) provided (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), as well as other co-workers (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) has had the items displayed in (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) office. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ethics officer was in there and that "nobody has raised a question that it was a problem."

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) acknowledged that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) received the annual ethics training and was informed that employees are allowed to do "small things for colleagues" around Christmas.

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## RECOMMENDATION:

This matter is recommended for closure due to the unknown amount of the (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED]. Additionally, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED] provided (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED] to other co-workers as well as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED]. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED] stated that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED] was informed during the annual ethics training that employees are allowed to do “small things for colleagues” around Christmas.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
1301 CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

DATE: February 24, 2020

PREPARED BY: SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CASE #: OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101

CROSS REFERENCE

TITLE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) GS-15, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) et al.

CASE CLOSING REPORT

Subject(s)	Location	Other Data
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	Washington, DC	

**VIOLATIONS:** 18 U.S.C § 641 – Public money, property or records

**ALLEGATION:** On July 8, 2019, the Washington Field Office (WFO), Office of Investigations (OI), Office of Inspector General (OIG), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), received an anonymous complaint via the hotline (2019-0293) reporting an alleged abuse of government funds and violation of policy by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) at the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB). According to the information contained in the anonymous hotline complaint, the CSB, specifically, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) authorized payments for internet services at the private residence (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**FINDINGS:** An interview with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) revealed that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) decided to pay for (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) residential internet service because (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) needed to have access to reliable internet services while teleworking. On July 18, 2019, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) informed (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) via e-mail message that the CSB “will no longer pay” for (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) residential internet services. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is no longer an employee of the CSB. This matter was declined by the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia.

**DISPOSITION:** No further investigative action is warranted. This investigation is hereby closed.

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